



STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

Strasbourg, 20 April 2020

CEP-CDCPP-WG (2020) 5E

WORKING GROUP ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

INTEGRATION OF LANDSCAPE IN SECTORAL POLICIES

3rd Meeting

WORKING DOCUMENT

Draft Déclaration

“Integrate consideration of the landscape in public policies”

*Written consultation to replace the planned Meeting
at the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 23 April 2020
(canceled due to the health crisis caused by Coronavirus)*

Summary

The European Landscape Convention provides that each Party undertakes to “integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape”. (Article 5, d – General measures

The 24th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the European Landscape Convention to be held in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 19-20 October 2020, will focus on “Landscape integration in sectoral policies”.

A Draft Declaration, intended to be adopted on the occasion of these events, was prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the work of the Working Group on “The integration of the landscape in sectoral policies” (Reports of the two meetings: CDCPP -CEP-WG (2019) 3E and CDCPP-CEP-WG (2020) 3E), as well as notes transmitted to the members of the Working Group by Ms. Emilie Fleury-Jägerschmidt (message of 24 February 2020 in Appendix to this document).

The Members of the Working Group are invited to:

- examine the Draft Lausanne Declaration “Integrate consideration of the landscape in public policies”, as set out below;
- forward their written comments to the Secretariat (in tracking mode for modifications) by 5 May 2020;
- note that:
 - the draft Declaration will be sent to the Parties to the Convention for possible comments before the events to be held in Lausanne on 19-20 October 2020;
 - a draft recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe will be prepared for presentation to the 11th Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, France, 26-27 May 2021).

Draft Declaration

“Integrate consideration of the landscape in public policies”

*[prepared to the attention of the participants
in the 24th Meeting of the Council of Europe Workshops for the implementation of
the European Landscape Convention, and
Celebration of the 20th anniversary of the European Landscape Convention,
Lausanne, Switzerland, 19-20 October 2020]*

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The participants in the 24th Meeting of the Council of Europe Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape integration in sectoral policies”, and Celebration of the 20th anniversary of the European Landscape Convention, Lausanne, Switzerland, 19-20 October 2020,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve greater unity between its members for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Having regard to the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 and opened to member States for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000;

Concerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment;

Noting that the landscape has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields, and constitutes a resource favourable to economic activity whose protection, management and planning can contribute to job creation;

Aware that the landscape contributes to the formation of local cultures and that it is a basic component of the European natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being;

Acknowledging that the landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: both in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas and in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty and in everyday areas;

Noting that developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, and in regional planning, town planning, transport, infrastructure, tourism and recreation and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy, are in many cases accelerating the transformation of landscapes;

Wishing to respond to the public’s wish to enjoy high-quality landscapes and to play an active part in the development of landscapes;

Believing that the landscape is a key element of individual and social well-being and that its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone;

Acknowledging that the quality and diversity of European landscapes constitute a common resource, and that it is important to co-operate towards its protection, management and planning;

Considering the aims of the European Landscape Convention and wishing to encourage its implementation;

Considering the topicality of the theme of the landscape regarding questions linked to climate change and the erosion of biodiversity, as well as a contribution of the Council of Europe to the implementation of the 2030 United Nations General Assembly 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;¹

Considering moreover the powerful symbolic charge of the landscape, which feeds on the sources of the social imagination;

Stressing that the landscape is meaningful and that public policies should be inspired by it, giving it a prominent place in the process of participatory projects;

Recalling the content of the following recommendations adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe:

- Recommendation No R (2008) 3 on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, and in particular Appendix 2 - Suggested text for the practical implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level;
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)7 on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of human rights and democracy with a view to sustainable development;
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)7 on Landscape integration in policies relating to rural territories in agricultural and forestry, energy and demographic transition;
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)8 on Landscape and democracy: public participation

Welcoming the major progress made over the past 20 years towards the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, both at international and national level, in application of Article 5 of the Convention, according to which:

“Each Party undertakes:

- a. to recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people’s surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity;*
- b. to establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning through the adoption of the specific measures set out in Article 6;²*
- c. to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies mentioned in paragraph b above;*

1. This applies in particular to the following Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages; Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all; Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all; Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all; Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation; Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development; Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss; Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels; Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. (Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, A/RES/70/1).

2. According to article 1, b. of the European Landscape Convention “‘Landscape policy’ means an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscapes”.

d. to integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.”

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Having regard to the need to consider the structuring role of the landscape as a lever for sustainable and harmonious territorial development, the participants:

– expressed the desire to consolidate the implementation of Article 5d. cited above, and urged the States Parties to the Convention to take care to integrate the landscape into all public policies likely to influence the quality of the landscape;

– noted that the landscape should be integrated into public policies, both territorial and sectoral, within the meaning of Recommendation No R (2008) 3 (I.1.E and F):

- *Territorial policies*: “The landscape dimension should be included in the preparation of all spatial management policies, both general and sectoral, in order to lead to higher-quality protection, management or planning proposals.”;

- *Sectoral policies*: “Landscape should be fully taken into account via appropriate procedures allowing systematic inclusion of the landscape dimension in all policies that influence the quality of a territory. Integration concerns both the various administrative bodies and departments on the same level (horizontal integration) and the various administrative bodies belonging to different levels (vertical integration).”

– expressed the wish that on this 4th International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe, also being celebrated on 20 October 2020, the “*Message from Lausanne on the integration of landscape in public policies*”, as stated in this Declaration is brought to the attention of landscape stakeholders so that the protection, management and planning of the landscape can be the subject of a global approach, at the same time sustainable, durable and harmonious, based on a widely shared approach.

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Appendix

Notes transmitted to the members of the Working Group by Ms. Emilie Fleury-Jägerschmidt following the 2nd Meeting of the Working Group

E-mail of 24 February 2020

1. The entry by the landscape approach allows the articulation of public policies on a given territory.
2. The landscape, a structuring role.

Landscape as a lever for territorial development.

3. This alignment does not necessarily call for new regulations/new legislation.

Landscape policy is not an additional constraint, it is an asset to guide public policy objectives/project objectives in a given context.

The objective is to activate/consolidate/“promote intersectoral, vertical and/or horizontal collaboration between the administrations concerned (or their sectors) and actors at all scales” (extract from expert report).

4. Associate resources, citizen knowledge and stakeholders in the service of public policies.

A social and societal expectation => shared responsibility.

It is not only a moral question, but an individual and collective responsibility which guarantees the common good and the general interest and not the particular interests (extract expert report).

5. The integration of Landscape policy is successful when it is not perceived as a constraint but constitutes a benefit for the actors of public policy and of society as a whole.

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